

I, however, learned one circumstance peculiarly worthy remark which occurred in the Emperor's apartments at Tils the first time he received a visit from the King of Prussia. That unfortunate monarch, who was accompanied by Que-Louisa, had taken refuge in a mill beyond the town. Tils was his sole habitation, whilst the Emperors occupied the two portions of the town, which is divided by the Niemen. The fact I am about to relate reached me indirectly through the medium of an officer of the Imperial Guard, who was on duty in Napoleon's apartments and was an eyewitness of it. When the Emperor Alexander visited Napoleon they continued for a long time in conversation on a balcony below where an immense crowd hailed their meeting with enthusiastic shouts. Napoleon commenced the conversation, as did the year preceding with the Emperor of Austria, by speaking of the uncertain fate of war.¹ Whilst they were conversing

other the eagle of France. The two outer doors were also surmounted the eagles of the two countries.

"The raft was precisely in the middle of the river, with the two doors* the *salon* facing the two opposite banks.

"The two sovereigns appeared on the banks of the river, and embarked at the same moment. But the Emperor Napoleon having a good boat manned by marines of the Guard, arrived first on the raft, entered the room and went to the opposite door, which he opened, and then stationed him on the edge of the raft to receive the Emperor Alexander, who had not arrived, not having such good rowers as the Emperor Napoleon.

"The two Emperors met in the most amicable way, at least to all appearance. They remained together for a considerable time, and then took leave of each other with as friendly an air as that with which they had met.

"Next day the Emperor of Russia established himself at Tilsit with a battalion of his Guard. Orders were given for evacuating that part of town where he and his battalion were to be quartered; and, though we were very much pressed for room, no encroachment on the space allotted to Russians was thought of.

"On the day the Emperor Alexander entered Tilsit the whole army under arms. The Imperial Guard was drawn out in two lines of three columns from the landing-place to the Emperor Napoleon's quarters, and from thence to the quarters of the Emperor of Russia. A salute of 100 guns was fired the moment Alexander stepped ashore on the spot where the Emperor Napoleon was waiting to receive him. The latter carried his attention to his visit (far as to send from his quarters the furniture for Alexander's bedchamber. Among the articles sent was a camp-bed belonging to the Emperor, wine presented to Alexander, who appeared much pleased with the gift.

"This meeting, the first which history records of the same kind of equal importance, attracted visitors to Tilsit from 100 leagues round. IV Talleyrand arrived, and after the observance of the usual ceremonies the business began to be discussed." (*Memoirs of the Duc de Rovigo*, tome iii. p.

"When," said Napoleon, "I was at Tilsit with the Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia, I was the most ignorant of the three in military affairs. These two sovereigns, especially the King of Prussia, were .